

*bcna stricta* with sometimes a division into two similar branches was not uncommon during August, 1902.

A fasciated specimen of *Vernonia angustifolia* is preserved in the Missouri Botanical Garden herbarium.

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## NOTE ON BOTRYCHIUM VIRGINIANUM (L.) SW.

BY IVAR TIDESTROM

The species of *Botrychium* often present interesting modifications of their normal form; they seem to vary as to form between very wide limits and their variations appear to be independent of climatic or other conditions. This became obvious to me while out on a collecting trip along the western shore of Chesapeake Bay, some thirty miles east of Washington. Along with typical forms of *B. virginianum* grew the slender form described by Pursh under the name of *B. gracile* [Pursh, Fl. Am. Sept. 2 : 656. 1814]. Some very large plants were also found, one of which is nearly 5 dm. high. Plants of this size are often found in the shaded ravines in the Potomac basin, which region appears to be a choice locality for this species. The most interesting form, however, was discovered among a number of normal plants at Chesapeake Beach, Md. It is represented in Fig. 1. Only one specimen was discovered; it proved interesting in having two fertile pinnules on the sterile segment — a case which is rarely met with in this species; the forking sporophyll and the two normal panicles are also interesting. Mr. Homer D. House informs me that the latter deviation from the normal form is not so rare.

As this species is very common in low woodlands, it is within easy reach of botanists and is well worthy of study. Some interesting data might be gathered and added to the history of this, our finest species of *Botrychium*.

Of other species, the following have been recorded as occurring within the limits of the Washington Flora: *B. neglectum* Wood, of which a single plant was discovered by Mrs. E. S.



FIG. 1. A form of *Botrychium virginianum*.

Steele, within four miles of this city ; *B. dissectum* Spreng. is frequent in rich woodlands ; *B. obliquum* Muhl., occurring in low damp woods, is not so common.

I am indebted to Messrs. R. V. Bailey and H. Hungerford for the photograph of *B. virginianum*.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,  
May 29, 1905.

## SOME LARGE SPECIMENS OF SMALL TREES IN GEORGIA

BY ROLAND M. HARPER

Two winters ago while collecting timber specimens in Georgia I came across some unusually large examples of four species which are ordinarily shrubs. The following notes on them may be of interest.

### RHUS COPALLINA L.

About two years ago \* I reported the occurrence of arborescent specimens of this on the banks of the Chattahoochee River in Early County near Saffold, at or near the inland edge of the Lower Oligocene region of the coastal plain. In February, 1904, I revisited the spot and found more of them (the fact that there are almost no evergreens on alluvial banks in that part of the country making it easier to see the trees in winter). The trunk of the largest specimen observed was eleven inches in diameter near the base, but as it forked about three feet from the ground (see Fig. 1) I had to select a smaller one for the collection. The largest specimens averaged about thirty feet tall. †

On March 26 I saw along the bluff of McBean Creek in the southeastern corner of Richmond County a specimen of *R. copallina* which I estimated to be forty feet tall. Its trunk was only six inches in diameter.

\* Bull. Torrey Club 30 : 291. 1903.

† I looked in vain for the large specimens of *Aralia spinosa* which I had seen near the same place in 1901, and was afterward informed that the demand for the bark ("prickly-ash bark") as an ingredient of some patent medicine had caused their destruction between my two visits.